



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 10, 2014**  
**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower**  
**Second Floor Conference Room**  
**1700 West Washington Street**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

### **Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present**

C.T. Wright (Chairman), Becky Brimhall-Lepire (Vice-Chairman), Charles Brown, George Evanoff, Joy Grainger, Bernadine Hoffman, Diane Joens, Deborah Lavinsky, Teresa Lopez, Doyle Meredith (Secretary), Allison Perrin, Trudy Schuett, Tonya Watson, Eric Coleman, Elisa Davis, Cydney Demodica, Jay Dunkleberger, Ronald Moore and Cindy Saverino

### **Council Members Absent**

Lisa O'Neill

### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Kim Jennings and Berntari Crosby

### **Guests Present and Signing In**

Denise Bale

### **Call to Order & Welcome**

Council Chairman C.T. Wright called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a welcome and introductions. Council Chairman Wright then recessed at 10:05 a.m. until completion of the Open Meeting Law Training.

### **Open Meeting Law Training**

Kathryn Marquoit, Assistant Ombudsman, Public Access provided training on Arizona's Open Meeting Law. Ms. Marquoit's presentation outlined the role of the state ombudsman and its enforcement authority then provided explanation and examples of the requirements of public bodies.

A copy of *Arizona's Open Meeting Law* training presentation is available through the Council on Aging office.

Following the Open Meeting Law Training, Council Chairman C.T. Wright reconvened the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

### **Review & Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the December 13, 2013 meeting were reviewed. *Becky Brimhall-Lepire made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Deborah Lavinsky seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Liaison Reports**

*Arizona Department of Economic Security /Division of Aging & Adult Services (DAAS) – Cindy Saverino gave the following report:*

#### **Ombudsman Program Outcomes for SFY 2013**

- Total number of complaints received for cases which were closed: 3,714.
- Around 75% of these complaints were verified by the ombudsman program.
- Around 80% of the complaints were either totally or partially resolved to the satisfaction of the resident or complainant. That's a substantial increase from FFY 2012, when only around 67% of complaints were either totally or partially resolved to the satisfaction of the resident or complainant.
- Total consultations to facility staff from local programs: 1,952.
- Total consultations to other individuals (family members, residents, community, etc.) from local programs: 3,601.
- 74 active certified ombudsman volunteers statewide who support 8 local programs who served for nearly 3400 hours.

#### **Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)**

- Pima Council on Aging is no longer implementing SCSEP. As of December 1, 2013 DAAS is contracting with the Pima County Career One-Stop to implement SCSEP.

#### **State Plan on Aging**

- Division of Aging & Adult Services is in the process of writing the plan and four public forums have been scheduled throughout the state.

*Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) /– Eric Coleman reported that the Maricopa Stand Down event was scheduled for February 14, 2014 at the Coliseum located at the Arizona State Fairgrounds. Mr. Coleman stated Phoenix has one of the largest veteran populations in the nation and Mayor Greg Stanton had pledged to house all chronically homeless veterans; an announcement was made on December 19<sup>th</sup> that all homeless veterans in Phoenix were in temporary shelter. According to Mr. Coleman, U.S. Vets provides housing to veterans who can do their own activities of daily living (ADLs) and are drug and alcohol free. Mr. Coleman reported ADVS plans to do a feasibility study for a Flagstaff Veterans Home.*

*Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) –Ronald Moore gave the following report:*

- AICOA cancelled their annual conference because the National Indian Council on Aging is holding its conference in Phoenix. Mr. Moore stated he will share more information on the national conference with members of the Advisory Council as it becomes available.
- Public hearings regarding Region VIII Area Agencies on Aging Annual Plan are scheduled to be held in February and March.

*Area Agencies on Aging/Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (Az4A) – Elisa Davis gave the following report:*

- AZ4A has seen much change recently. Jim Murphy retired from his position as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Region II Pima Council on Aging (PCOA). W. Mark Clark was appointed President and CEO of PCOA effective January 2, 2014. Kathleen Heard retired from her position as director of Region VI Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) Area Agency on Aging. Wanda Leikem has been appointed director of SEAGO Area Agency on Aging. Dana Kennedy who served as the AZ4A State Coordinator has moved on to serve as District Senior Advisor and Casework Director for Congresswoman Krysten Sinema.
- On Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> Region One's DOVES program sponsored an event for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and commemorated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DOVES Transitional Housing Program. Community members, agency staff and DOVES graduates attended the event.
- Maricopa Elder Abuse Prevention Alliance (MEAPA) celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on December 6<sup>th</sup> with an event attended by over 100 people.
- Western Arizona Council of Government, Area Agency on Aging, will be hosting the Region IV Conference on Aging on January 30<sup>th</sup> in Yuma.

*Arizona Department of Health Services – (ADHS)* No report received; Dr. Nayeri absent.

*Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)* – Cydney Demodica reported ADOT continues the work of the Safety Summit to meet the goal of no deaths through coordinated efforts of all safety and transportation agencies in the state to reduce crashes in Arizona. According to Ms. Demodica, the ten (10) task force groups created from the strategic Highway Safety Plan will provide updates at that group's next meeting in February. Ms. Demodica reported that she continues to work on a distribution strategy for the Physician's Fact Sheet that was developed by GACA's Older Driver Safety and Report Review Committee and intends to post the GrandDriver brochure, with additional consumer resources, on the ADOT website. Ms. Demodica informed the Council ADOT is currently working on a multitude of projects including U.S. 89.

*Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)* – Jay Dunkleberger reported he had placed current Arizona Long Term Care System -ALTCS Enrollment by County forms on the sign in table and provided the following report:

- Member option for elderly and disabled is the self-directed care program that allows members to hire/fire and do payroll; one half of participants are ALTCS members; 5,000 are enrolled. AHCCCS working to make sure caregivers are employed correctly and issued guidelines and is finalizing manual for members. Support coordinator refresher training program has been put into place to discuss with members their options in the program.
- Working on dual enrollment for Medicaid/Medicare recipients; ALTCS plan cards list both plans.
- Continuing to work on professionalism of direct care workers in the home; mandatory training has been in place for over one year. Website includes all training caregivers have had and will be live in two weeks. [dcwrecords@azahcccs.gov](mailto:dcwrecords@azahcccs.gov).
- Establishing Choice Council, a general ALTCS council with broader role.
- *Filing an Application for the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS)* was provided to the Council as a reference for eligibility question and Mr. Dunkleberger

will invite ALTCS eligibility staff to answer specific questions the Council member may have at the March GACA meeting.

A copy of the *Arizona Long Term Care System -ALTCS Enrollment by County* and the *Filing an Application for the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS)* are available through the Council on Aging office.

*Attorney General's Office (AG)* –No report received; Ted Evertsen absent.

### **Council Chairman Report**

*Council Reappointments and Appointments; Officers and Committee Leadership for 2014*  
Council Chairman C.T. Wright reported appointments are pending from Governor's Office including the appointment of the 2014 Council Chairman. At the invitation of the Council Chairman, Vice Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire reported:

- C.T. Wright had accepted the role of Committee Chairman of the Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC);
- Allison Perrin had accepted the role of Committee Chairwoman of the Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC);
- Diane Joens had accepted the role of Committee Chairwoman of the Mature Workforce Committee (MWC);
- Council Chairman C.T. Wright had appointed Tonya Watson as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review & Revitalization and Public Relations and appointed George Evanoff and Lisa O'Neill to that committee;
- Deborah Lavinsky had accepted the role of Vice Chair of the Council; and
- Charles Brown had accepted the role of Secretary of the Council.

#### *Follow Up to the Annual Planning Meeting*

Council Chairman C.T. Wright provided an overview of the report out he had provided at the Council's committee meetings about the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging taking time at their November Annual Planning meeting to look inward and consider briefly where the Council is at this point in time. Chairman Wright reminded the group that has been nearly 10 years since three standing committees – the Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee, Mature Workforce Committee and Social, Health and Alzheimer's were developed with objectives created that link to the Council's mission. The 2013 Senior Action Days provided the Council with the opportunity to hear directly from older constituents and their advocates, and one thing members could agree on is that it's time to review and revitalize the Advisory Council on Aging. With this intent of review and revitalization, The Chairman reiterated that he had appointed an Ad Hoc Committee dedicated to leading an internal review and a strategic process over the coming year that will be working with each of the committees to review and revitalize as well and it was expected that recommendations for changes – however large or small – will be made to the initiatives of these groups. Council members, committee members and stakeholders were invited and encouraged to participate in the process.

Tonya Watson, Ad Hoc Committee Chairwoman provided a report on the Ad Hoc Committee work to date that included:

- Ad Hoc Committee members, George Evanoff, Lisa O'Neill and Tonya Watson, held their initial meeting at the University of Arizona Center on Aging on December 17, 2013.
- Committee reviewed purposed and overall expectations as conveyed the Council Chairman Wright.
- Committee heard input and historical perspectives on the Council from veteran Council member Evanoff and Council Executive Director Cathy De Lisa.
- Members agreed to the following:
  - Keep committee structure at three committees for now.
  - Executive Director Cathy De Lisa will serve as the Ad Hoc Committee's staff liaison.
  - Formally assess where the Council is now using the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis tool.
  - Using SWOT results, input from the stakeholder survey, Senior Action Day data and Council and staff input, the group will develop a blueprint for strategic action for the Council for the coming decade.
  - Discuss ways to identify and leverage the value of the Council and its work.

Dr. Watson reiterated that the AD Hoc group invited input and feedback from the Council and stakeholders and planned to provide on-going reports at the Executive Committee and the Council meetings as part of transparency.

### **Executive Director's Office Updates**

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported:

- The Council on Aging had received scam materials outlined in a recent Attorney General's press release and circulated the press release and the solicitation received.
- Dr. Mindy Fain, Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Geriatrics, General Internal Medicine and Palliative Medicine in the University Of Arizona Department Of Medicine, Co-Director of the Arizona Center on Aging and the Arizona Geriatric Education Center has been honored with the Anne and Alden Hart Endowed Chair in Medicine.
- EHealth4AZ launched a campaign to educate Arizonans on eHealth benefits in an effort to help residents become better informed about the role of technology in their health and wellness.
- The Governor had issued a press release announcing the final resolution in Arnold v. Sarn case regarding care and services for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI).
- Acceptance of an invitation to serve on the Senior Advisory Council for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness at the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Copies of the materials circulated by Ms. De Lisa are available through the Council on Aging office.

### **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee** – Council Chairman Wright reported the Committee had discussed follow up to the Annual Plan Meeting, Senior Action Days and requests made to the Council. Council Chairman C.T. Wright reported that in follow up to the discussion on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Council’s review and revitalization efforts in 2014, Executive Director Cathy De Lisa had shared her intent to attend the 2014 ASA Conference March 11 – 15, 2014 in San Diego at her expense and gain knowledge on current trends and best practices in aging services. Following a review of the conference brochure, the Council Chairman reported, the Executive Committee had voted to recommend to the Council that the Council endorse the Executive Director’s trip to the ASA Conference in San Diego and it be considered work time. Council Chairman Wright called for a motion. *Charles Brown made a motion to endorse the Executive Director’s attendance at the annual ASA Conference in San Diego and that it be considered work time. George Evanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Ad Hoc Committee on Review & Revitalization and Public Relations** – Tonya Watson reported the committee had cancelled a meeting scheduled after the Council meeting and would determine a future date for their next meeting and post accordingly.

**Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC)** – Committee Chairman C.T. Wright reported that Senator Steve Farley and Representative Debbie Lesko attended the meeting and discussed legislation impacting older Arizonans and common concerns raised by constituents.

**Mature Workforce Committee (MWC)** – Committee Chairwoman Diane Joens reported Susan Berman and Margie Tallie gave a presentation on Fresh Start Women’s Foundation and Joy Grainger and Heather Prentice gave a presentation on Mercy Housing.

**Social, Health & Alzheimer’s Committee (SHAC)** – Committee Chairwoman Allison Perrin reported:

- The group heard from Council Chairman Wright about the Annual Planning meeting discussion and the decision to form the Ad Hoc group and why. Tonya shared updates from the Ad Hoc Committee and the group reviewed information collected from the Senior Action Days and from the Stakeholder Survey;
- David Besst updated SHAC on the Lifespan Respite program, the kick-off of the vouchers that allow for up to 25 hours of respite care to those caregivers providing care to persons of all ages (grandparents raising grandparents, parents of disabled adults and those of older adults) per year. Applications are taken and processed through the Caregiver Resource Line and the Area Agencies on Aging fund the respite;
- Phil Carll of the Alzheimer’s Association Desert Southwest Chapter provided updates on the national plan and the Arizona Alzheimer’s Task Force; and
- Julia Wacloff from ADHS provided a report out on the Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy sponsored by the Central Arizona Dental Association.

### **Council Member Reports**

Tonya Watson reported she was invited to attend the Northern Arizona Council of Governments – NACOG Regional Council meeting. Ms. Watson stated she was impressed and promised a presence from the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging at future meeting and that

Councilmembers Doyle Meredith and Diane Joens had agreed to attend meetings to help ensure representation from GACA.

George Evanoff reported a retirement reception was being held in Tucson for Jim Murphy, retired President and CEO of Pima Council on Aging and he was unable to attend because of the Council meetings.

Allison Perrin reported April 16, 2014 is National Health Care Decisions Day and the Attorney General's Task Force Against Elder Abuse – TASA is planning an educational presentation.

Charles Brown reported that Kathleen Heard retired from the Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization: Area Agency on Aging.

Trudy Schuett reported Western Arizona Council of Governments – WACOG Area Agency on Aging was holding their annual conference on January 30, and legislative advocacy training was scheduled on January 29, 2014.

Diane Joens invited Council members and guests to participate in the Mayor's March a Mile for Meals in Cottonwood, Arizona on March 22, 2014.

#### **Announcements**

None

#### **Call to Public**

None

#### **Adjourn**

*The meeting was adjourned by Council Chairman C.T. Wright at 12:33 pm.*

#### **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for March 7, 2014; location to be confirmed and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: [www.azgovernor.gov/gaca](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca). These meetings are open to the public.**